



Approved for use through 04/30/2003. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/938,749
Filing Date	August 24, 2001
First Named Inventor	Suzuki et al.
Art Unit	2879
Examiner Name	Michael H. Day
Attorney Docket Number	35061-02700

Sheet

of

2.

Attorney Docket Number

35061-02700

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
al	1	US- 5,777,430	07-07-1998	Ueda et al	[
	2	US- 6,031,326	02-29-2000	Suzuki et al.	
	3	US- 2,250,622	07-29-1941	R.M. Bowie	
	4	US- 5,994,830	11-30-1999	Nose et al.	
	5	US- 6,133,685	10-17-2000	Konda et al.	
	6	US- 6,271,625	08-07-2001	Van Engelshoven et a	
	7	US- 5,909,079	06-01-1999	Uchida et al.	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

RECEIVED
AUG - 8 20
TECHNOLOGY CENT

RECEIVED
AUG - 8 2003
TECHNOLOGY CENTER

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	r ⁶
		Country Code ³ *Number ⁴ *Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY			
ab	8	EPO-0 250 027 A1	12-23-1997	Philips		
ab	9	JP-58100344	06-15-1983	Hitachi		
ab	10	JP-11135037	05-21-1999	Nippon Electric		

Examiner
Signature

Date
Considered

9/27/03

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.

